

REMARKS

Claims 1-41 are pending in the application, of which claims 1-5 and 23-25 presently stand rejected, and claims 6-22 and 26-14 are indicated as being allowable. Claims 1, 4 and 23 have been amended to more clearly describe Applicants' invention. Certain paragraphs of the specification have also been amended to correct typographical informalities. No new matter has been added. In view of the amendments above and arguments set forth below, reconsideration of rejected claims 1-5 and 23-25 and allowance of the same is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 6-22 and 26-14 are indicated as being allowed. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Specification

2. The specification has been amended to correct certain typographical informalities.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

3. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5 and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner argues that certain symbols used within claims 1 and 23 are undefined. The Examiner requests correction of the same.

As to the rejection of **claims 1 and 23**:

By the amendments made herein, Applicants provide definitions of the symbols used within claims 1 and 23. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1 and 23 are now in a position for allowance.

As to the rejection of **claims 2-5 and 24-25**:

Claims 2-5 depend from independent claim 1, and claims 24-25 depend from independent claim 23. Independent claims 1 and 23 have been amended to more clearly describe Applicants' invention and, as discussed above, are in a position for allowance. Accordingly, claims 2-5 and 24-25 are also allowable since they depend from an allowable base claim.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and would appreciate early notification of the same.

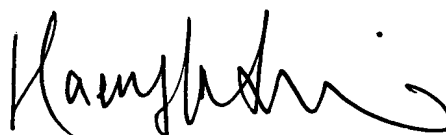
Invitation for a telephone interview

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 659-9076 if further issues remain with allowance of this case.

Deposit Account Authorization

Although no fee is believed due by submission of this paper, authorization is hereby made to charge any fees due or outstanding, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. **18-2220** (Order No. 45565).

Respectfully Submitted,



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